



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

August 4, 2017

Mr. John P. Beauchamp  
General Counsel  
Texas Commission on Law Enforcement  
6330 East Highway 290, Suite 200  
Austin, Texas 78723-1035

OR2017-17531

Dear Mr. Beauchamp:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Public Information Act (the "Act"), chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 672072.

The Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (the "commission") received a request for information pertaining to two named peace officers, including their personal status reports, L-1 forms, and F-5 forms. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.101 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Initially, we note the commission has submitted only the requested F-5 reports. To the extent any additional information responsive to the request existed on the date the commission received the request, we assume the commission has released it. If the commission has not released any such information, it must do so at this time. *See* Gov't Code §§ 552.301(a), .302; *see also* Open Records Decision No. 664 (2000) (if governmental body concludes no exceptions apply to requested information, it must release information as soon as possible).

Section 552.101 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure "information considered to be confidential by law, either constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision." Gov't Code § 552.101. This exception encompasses section 1701.454 of the Occupations Code, which governs the public availability of information submitted to the commission under

subchapter J of chapter 1701 of the Occupations Code.<sup>1</sup> Section 1701.454 provides as follows:

(a) All information submitted to the commission under this subchapter is confidential and is not subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code, unless the person resigned or was terminated due to substantiated incidents of excessive force or violations of the law other than traffic offenses.

(b) Except as provided by this subchapter, a commission member or other person may not release information submitted under this subchapter.

Occ. Code § 1701.454. The submitted information was submitted to the commission pursuant to subchapter J of chapter 1701 of the Occupations Code. Furthermore, the information at issue does not indicate either of the named officers resigned or were terminated due to substantiated incidents of excessive force or violations of the law other than traffic offenses. Therefore, the commission must withhold the submitted information under section 552.101 in conjunction with section 1701.454 of the Occupations Code.

This letter ruling is limited to the particular information at issue in this request and limited to the facts as presented to us; therefore, this ruling must not be relied upon as a previous determination regarding any other information or any other circumstances.

This ruling triggers important deadlines regarding the rights and responsibilities of the governmental body and of the requestor. For more information concerning those rights and responsibilities, please visit our website at [http://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open/orl\\_ruling\\_info.shtml](http://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open/orl_ruling_info.shtml), or call the Office of the Attorney General's Open Government Hotline, toll free, at (877) 673-6839. Questions concerning the allowable charges for providing public information under the Act may be directed to the Office of the Attorney General, toll free, at (888) 672-6787.

Sincerely,



Cindy Nettles  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

CN/tdw

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<sup>1</sup>The Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education was renamed the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement by the 83rd Legislature. See Act of May 6, 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., ch. 93, § 1.01, 2013 Tex. Gen. Laws 174, 174.

Ref: ID# 672072

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)